

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for remote monitoring of a premises, said method comprising the steps of:
 - 2 operatively coupling a remote client to a security system server, said security
 - 3 system server being capable of authenticating a user of said remote client;
 - 4 operatively coupling said remote client to a security gateway, said security
 - 5 gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more portions of said
 - 6 premises;
 - 7 activating a signal at said premises for notifying an occupant at said premises that
 - 8 remote monitoring is occurring; and
 - 9 transferring information between said security gateway and said remote client;
 - 10 wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said
 - 11 premises.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of transferring information between said security gateway and said remote client is controlled by said user of said remote client.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said security gateway is operably coupled to at least one camera located at said premises.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said remote client is operable to control the output of said at least one camera located at said premises.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said security gateway is operably coupled to at least one audio station.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said remote client is operable to control the output of said at least one audio station.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said signal comprises an audible signal.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said audible signal is transmitted to a speaker.
- 1 9. The method of claim 7, wherein said audible signal comprises a sound uniquely associated with said user.

- 1 10. The method of claim 7, wherein said audible signal comprises speech.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said audible signal identifies said user.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein said signal comprises visual data.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data comprises a depiction of said user.
- 1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data comprises a graphical image.
- 1 15. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data comprises an alphanumeric message.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein said alphanumeric message identifies said user.
- 1 17. The method of claim 15, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises transmitting said alphanumeric message to a keypad located at said premises.
- 1 18. The method of claim 12, wherein said visual data is transmitted to a display device.
- 1 19. The method of claim 18, wherein said display device comprises a television.
- 1 20. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises activating a light source at said premises.
- 1 21. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises activating an LED located on said camera.
- 1 22. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of activating said signal comprises activating an LED located on a keypad located at said premises.

- 1 23. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
2 verifying the identification of said user of said remote client;
3 transmitting an access token from said security system server to said remote
4 client; and
5 providing said security gateway with information about said user and said access
6 token;
7 wherein said access token is adapted to allow said remote client to access said
8 security gateway based on said user's permission profile; and
9 wherein said user's permission profile is created by a general administrator of said
10 security gateway.
- 1 24. The method of claim 23, wherein said general administrator of said security
2 system is capable of modifying said user's permission profile.
- 1 25. The method of claim 23, wherein said step of verifying said identification of said user
2 comprises authenticating biometric data.
- 1 26. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token expires at a designated time and date.
- 1 27. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token expires after a designated length of
2 time has elapsed.
- 1 28. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token expires after a designated number of
2 accesses have occurred.
- 1 29. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token allows access to specific features of
2 said security gateway according to said user's permission profile.
- 1 30. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token allows access to one or more
2 designated cameras located at said premises.
- 1 31. The method of claim 23, wherein said access token allows access to one or more
2 designated audio stations located at said premises.

- 1 41. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 enabling substantially real-time synchronized audio and video communication
3 between said remote client and said security gateway.

- 1 42. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 recording audio and video data during a particular time period.

- 1 43. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period comprises intervals
2 according to a pre-determined schedule.

- 1 44. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period is determined upon demand
2 of an administrator of said security gateway.

- 1 45. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins prior to triggering of
2 an alarm.

- 1 46. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins upon triggering of an
2 alarm.

- 1 47. The method of claim 46, wherein said security gateway continuously caches audio and
2 video data.

- 1 48. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins prior to triggering of
2 a sensor.

- 1 49. The method of claim 42, wherein said particular time period begins upon triggering of a
2 sensor.

- 1 50. The method of claim 49, wherein said security gateway continuously caches audio and
2 video data.

- 1 51. The method of claim 42, wherein said recorded audio and video data are used to provide
2 context for an alarm event.

1 54. A security system for remote monitoring of a premises by a user of a remote client, said
2 security system comprising:

3 a security system server, said security system server being capable of
4 authenticating said user of said remote client;
5 a security gateway operatively coupled to said security system server via a
6 network, said security gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more
7 portions of said premises;

8 one or more cameras located at said premises and operatively coupled to said
9 security gateway; and

10 one or more audio stations located at said premises and operatively coupled to
11 said security gateway;

12 wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said
13 premises; and

14 wherein said security gateway provides an audiovisual signal at said premises for
15 notifying an occupant at said premises that remote monitoring is occurring.

1 55. The security system of claim 54, wherein said security gateway comprises a controller
2 capable of performing building automation control functions.

1 56. The security system of claim 54, wherein said security system provides for streaming
2 data in substantially real-time from said security gateway to said remote client.

1 57. The security system of claim 54, wherein said security system provides for substantially
2 real-time synchronized audio and video communication between said remote client and
3 said security gateway.

1 58. The system of claim 54, wherein said security system server provides said remote client
2 with an access token based on a permission profile associated with said user.

1 59. A security system for remote monitoring of a residential premises by a user of a remote
2 client, said security system comprising:

3 a security system server, said security system server being capable of
4 authenticating said user of said remote client;
5 a security gateway operatively coupled to said security system server via a
6 network, said security gateway being capable of managing the monitoring of one or more
7 portions of said premises;

8 one or more cameras located at said premises and operatively coupled to said
9 security gateway; and

10 one or more audio stations located at said premises and operatively coupled to
11 said security gateway;

12 wherein said user is at a location which is geographically remote from said
13 premises;

14 wherein said security gateway provides an audiovisual signal at said premises for
15 notifying an occupant at said premises that remote monitoring is occurring;

16 wherein said security system provides for streaming data in substantially real-time
17 from said security gateway to said remote client;

18 wherein said security system provides for substantially real-time synchronized
19 audio and video communication between said remote client and said security gateway;
20 and

21 wherein said security system server provides said remote client with an access
22 - token based on a permission profile associated with said user.